

## Donan Field – Dumbarton Development ES Web Comments

ES Title: Donan Field Development Environmental Statement  
Operator: Kerr-McGee Oil (U.K.) Limited  
ES Report No: D/2853/2005  
ES Date: November 2005  
Block Nos: 15/20a & 15/20b  
Development Type: The Dumbarton Development represents the proposed redevelopment of the Donan Field which is to be undertaken as a phased development. **Phase 1:** drill 5 production wells & 1 produced water disposal well tied back to modified Floating Production, Storage and Offloading Vessel (FPSO) **Phase 2:** drill up to 3 production wells & a water injection well.

### Synopsis

Kerr-McGee Oil (U.K.) Limited propose to re-develop the Donan Field located in UKCS Blocks 15/20a & 15/20b, some 220Km North east of Aberdeen and approximately 40Km west of the UK/Norway median line, in water depths of 140 metres. The field had previously been operated by BP until 1997 when production ceased. The Dumbarton Development will be a phased strategy. Phase 1 will consist of a single drill centre (DCC) tied back to a modified FPSO. It is proposed to drill 5 production wells and 1 produced water disposal well. Oil will be exported via shuttle tanker, whilst the rich gas stream (NGL/Gs) will be exported by pipeline via MacCulloch and Piper where the NGL will be extracted and piped into the Flotta system. The remaining gas will be exported via the Frigg system.

Drilling of phase 1 is programmed for December 2005/January 2006 with wells being batch drilled. Each well is expected to take 35 days to drill and a combination of water based mud (WBM) and Oil based mud (OBM) will be used. Each well is expected to generate 345 tonnes of WBM cuttings and 475 tonnes OBM cuttings, with OBM cuttings be skipped and shipped ashore for treatment.

Subsea work is planned for May 2006, with an approximately 2 km, 12" production line, 6" gas flow line, 10" water disposal line and a 4.5" electro-hydraulic control umbilical from the DCC drill centre to the FPSO. A 10km, 6" gas export line will take gas from the FPSO to MacCulloch. All lines will be trenched and allowed to naturally backfill.

First oil is expected in October 2006, with a peak oil production of 58,000 barrels of oil per day (9,216m<sup>3</sup>/day) in 2007 and gas is expected to peak at 23 million standard cubic feet/day (640,235m<sup>3</sup>/day). Anticipated field life is 10 years.

Phase 2 of the development involves the drilling of up to 3 more production wells in the NW, 2 of which may be from second drill centre DCW and potentially a second produced water re-injection well at DCC.

The ES assessed the environmental implications of the proposed development and identified a number of moderate risks requiring additional assessment. Following further investigation it was concluded that the development would not result in any significant

long-term effects to the receiving environment and in particular is unlikely to have a significant effect on any potential Annex 1 Habitat.

**Consultees:** The statutory consultees for the ES were the JNCC and FRS.

**JNCC:** Following the provision of additional information JNCC are content for the project to proceed.

**FRS:** FRS had no objections to consent being granted for the proposal.

**Public Consultation** - No comments were received as a result of public consultation.

**Conclusions:** Following consultation and the provision of additional information in relation to the area covered by the survey work and the potential for submarine structures in the vicinity of the development provided on the 21 December 2005, we are satisfied that this project is not likely to have a significant impact on any sites protected under the Habitats Regulations

**Recommendation:** Based on the information presented in the environmental statement it is recommended the well consent should be granted.